YEAH, I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER THEN.
It's summer vacation at last.
...WELL, SEE YOU.
Until now, I've been looking forward to summer vacation every year, counting down the days to it.
THIS YEAR, MAYBE IT FEELS... A BIT LONELY.

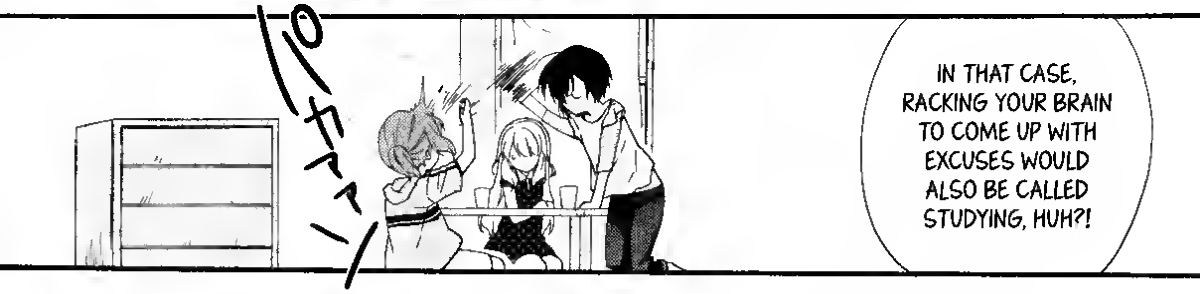
STEP.22

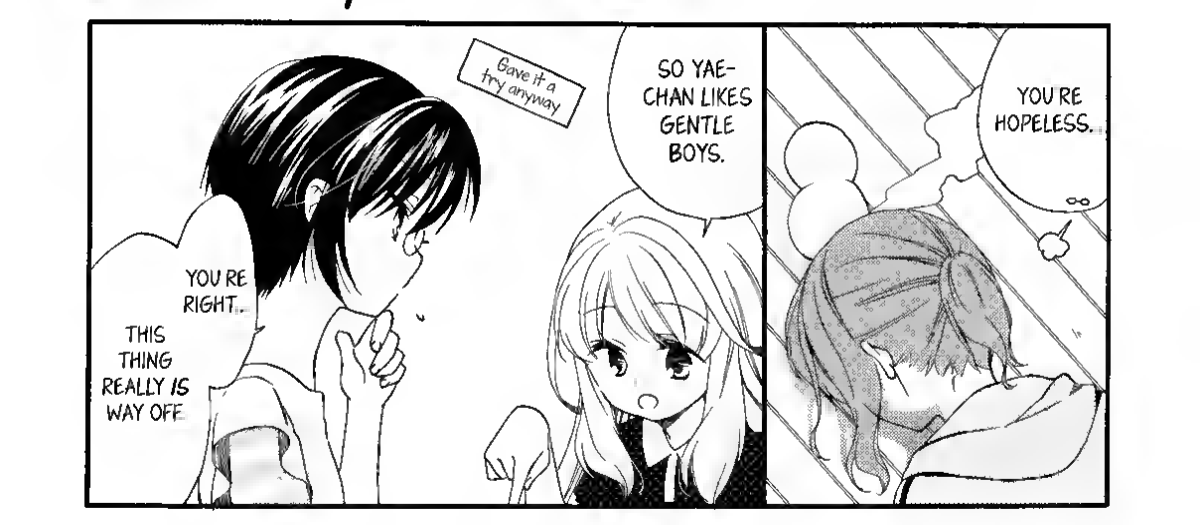
And so, the first day of summer has arrived.
As for what we're doing...
Mhmm
SUMMER CUTOFF
We're having a study party to get all of our homework finished up early.
.....

SORRY I DIDN'T MEAN TO
So-
THIS IS A STUDY PARTY, RIGHT?!
びっ
ニュッ
The phone strap
YOU GOT THAT WHEN YOU WENT TO THE AQUARIUM LAST TIME, RIGHT?
Gasp
HIMARI...
YEAH!
SATORU-KUN GOT A WHALE!
We bought them for each other!

THIS CAN'T BE...
WHAT'S WRONG SHUUKO? ARE YOU STUCK ON SOMETHING?
HOW STRANGE...
THAT'S THE FIFTH TIME YOU'VE TOLD US, HIMARI...
Ufufu...
I WAS SURE MY IDEAL GUY IS TALL AND COOL-LOOKING!!
Summer Workbook II
Math II
clink
THWACK!

B-BUT IT'S WEIRD!
THIS CHART JUST DOESN'T SEEM TO MAKE SENSE TO ME...
FIGURING IT OUT CAN BE SEEN AS A FORM OF STUDYING, RIGHT...?!
I SEE...


IN THAT CASE, RACKING YOUR BRAIN TO COME UP WITH EXCUSES WOULD ALSO BE CALLED STUDYING, HUH?!


YOU'RE HOPELESS.
SO YAE-CHAN LIKES GENTLE BOYS.
Gave it a try anyway
YOU'RE RIGHT.. THIS THING REALLY IS WAY OFF

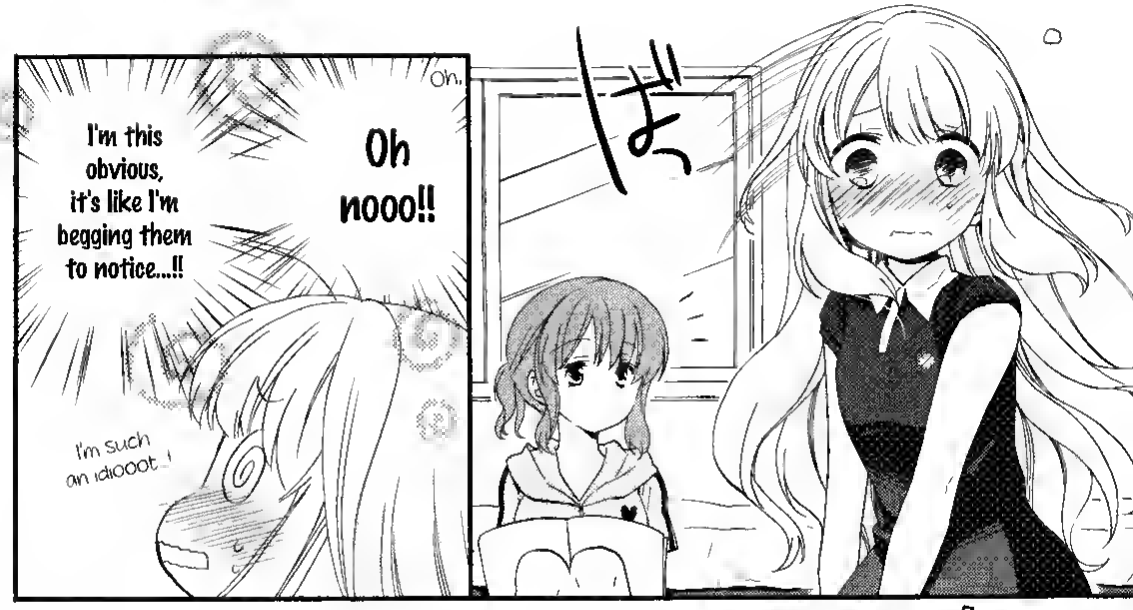
You like harsh, violent boys...?
That means...
THE MANLY WARRIOR!!
That's going too far!
NO WAY!!
I HONESTLY HAVEN'T GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT BUT...
I GUESS SOMEONE WHO'S DEPENDABLE...
OTHERWISE YOU'D PROBABLY END UP LOOKING AFTER HIM ALL THE TIME LIKE AN OLDER SISTER
OKAY, HIMARI'S NEXT!
WE'RE STILL NOT DONE?
HIMARI, YOU LIKE KIND, CARING BOYS, RIGHT?
I...
I SUPPOSE... THAT'S RIGHT...
THAT'S NOT MUCH OF A QUESTION...
JUST KIDDING!

UM, THE TRUTH IS...
Mumble
OH, YEAH...
JUST FORGET ABOUT THAT ALREADY!
IS IT A MORE SHOCKING CONFESSION THAN THAT SO-CALLED "KISS" ON THE CHEEK OU GOT FROM THE DOLPHIN?
What is it, what is it?
The sixth time!!
SATORU -KUN GAVE ME THIS CRAB STRAP!
SA...
Umm
It's...

WHY THANK YOU.
おいっ
OH, BUT I GOT SOUVENIRS FOR YOU TWO AS WELL.
NO, THAT'S NOT IT!!
Fun fact about sunfish
They're actually sad swimmers!
Math II
FINISH EATING FIRST!
munch
B-
BAH AHM WABUH!
urk
SO?
WHAT IS IT YOU NEED TO TELL US?
WELL... THE THING IS...

I-
I... ACTUALLY LIKE
S-
S-
S-
SATORU-KUN...
I THINK...
Yeah.

OH, SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS.
SO, YOU FINALLY REALIZED?
HUH??!
You both knew...?
nod
...!
Shooo cuuute
NOW THAT YOU REALLY HAVE FEELINGS FOR HIM IT'S EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO TELL HIM
THE TRUTH, THAT IS.
YEAH...
Flip...
First Summer-experiences
LET'S TALK ABOUT KISS-ING


Oh,
I'm this obvious, it's like I'm begging them to notice...!!
Oh nooo!!
I'm such an idiooot..!

WHAT'S THAAAT?! GOT ALL WORKED UP ABOUT THE SPECIAL ARTICLE ON KISSING??
That's not what I meaant!
WAAH!

HM...?

MAYBE THEY DIDN'T NOTICE AFTER ALL...

Of... of course Himari.. and that bonehead would...
Reverted to calling him that due to shock

AND SHE'S DENYING IT BECAUSE IT'S TOO EMBARRASSING TO TALK ABOUT?!
YAE-CHAN, DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY!
YOU KNOW THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

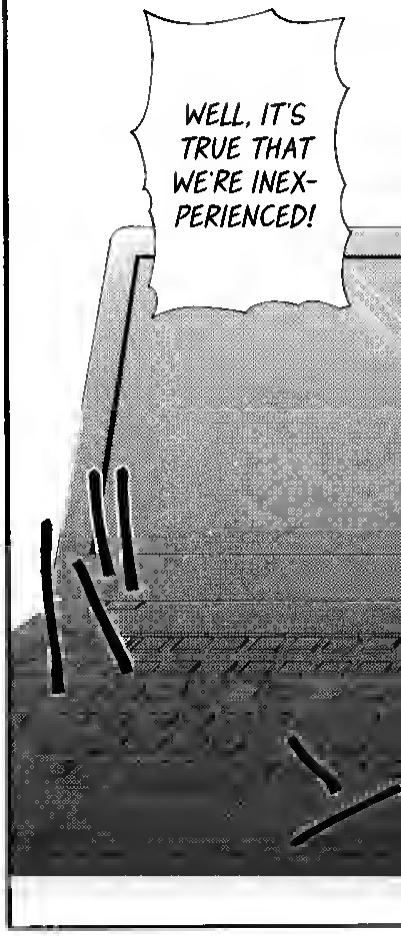
BUT YOU KNOW,

WHEN IT REALLY COUNTS...?
IF YOU REACT TO A SINGLE ARTICLE LIKE THAT, YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE WHEN IT REALLY COUNTS.

I knew this would happen.
Homework
Come on, Himari!
LET'S PREPARE FOR WHEN THE DAY COMES! TIME TO STUDY KISSING!!
I AM FULLY PREPARED... TO PLAY THE ROLE OF HIMARI'S PARTNER!!
Or not.
Ah...
IS YAE-CHAN GOING TO SAVE ME...?
Flinch
SHU-UKO!!

In a dream!
EEE EEE EH?!
EH?
I'VE DONE IT BEFORE.
B-BUT NONE OF US HAVE ANY EXPE-RIENCE!
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
Right?
DON'T WORRY!
2D...?
And I'm not sure if it was me or not...
IT WAS ALL IN 2D, SO...
Um.
W-WHAT DID IT FEEL LIKE?
ba-dump
ba-dump
HOW DID IT FEEL...?

☆ The wonderful Internet! ☆
SO LET'S MAKE USE OF TECHNOLOGY!
SHUUKO, WHAT'S THIS KENTAKA FANART" IN YOUR SEARCH HISTORY...?
It popped up when I typed "K"
KYA AAA AA AA


WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT WE'RE INEXPERIENCED!

Later on...
KISSES BETWEEN GIRLS ARE IN VOGUE...!
THE AVERAGE AGE FOR HAVING YOUR FIRST KISS IS 17...
Though I'm not there yet...
70% OF THE COUPLES KISS BY THEIR THIRD DATE...
We went on three already...

WHAT WE NEED ARE SECRET TRICKS! KNOW-HOW!!
We decided to ignore those statistics.
Kissing tricks
Use your tongue
Bite lower lip
SOME-THING A LITTLE MORE... BASIC...
YEAH...
BUT WHAT IT REALLY COMES DOWN TO IS "THE ATMOSPHERE", HUH?

SHUUKO, YOU'RE JUST GETTING MORE AND MORE PITIABLE.
Confident
PUT BUBBLES IN THE BACKGROUND!!
I KNOW AN EASY WAY TO MAKE A GOOD ATMOSPHERE.
OH?
DON'T GIVE ME THOSE SYMPATHETIC LOOKS!
Himari...
Nue come back
REALLY! EVEN I CAN DO THAT MUCH, YOU KNOW?!
REAAAALLY?
THIS SEEMS PRETTY SIMPLE, RIGHT?
"STAY QUIET AND STARE AT YOUR PARTNER."
IF THAT'S ALL... I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO IT...
カチャッ
WAH-
OKAY, THEN YAE WILL STAND IN FOR KAIKUN!
Like before!

THIS WON'T WORK..
SO IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE, AFTER ALL?

IT'S NOT THAT...
...

I MEAN..
IN THE END, YAE-CHAN AND SATORU-KUN ARE STILL...
DIFFER-ENT...
Himari-san
HIMARI.
And the way he says my name...
Satoru-kun is...
He's taller, and his hands are bigger too

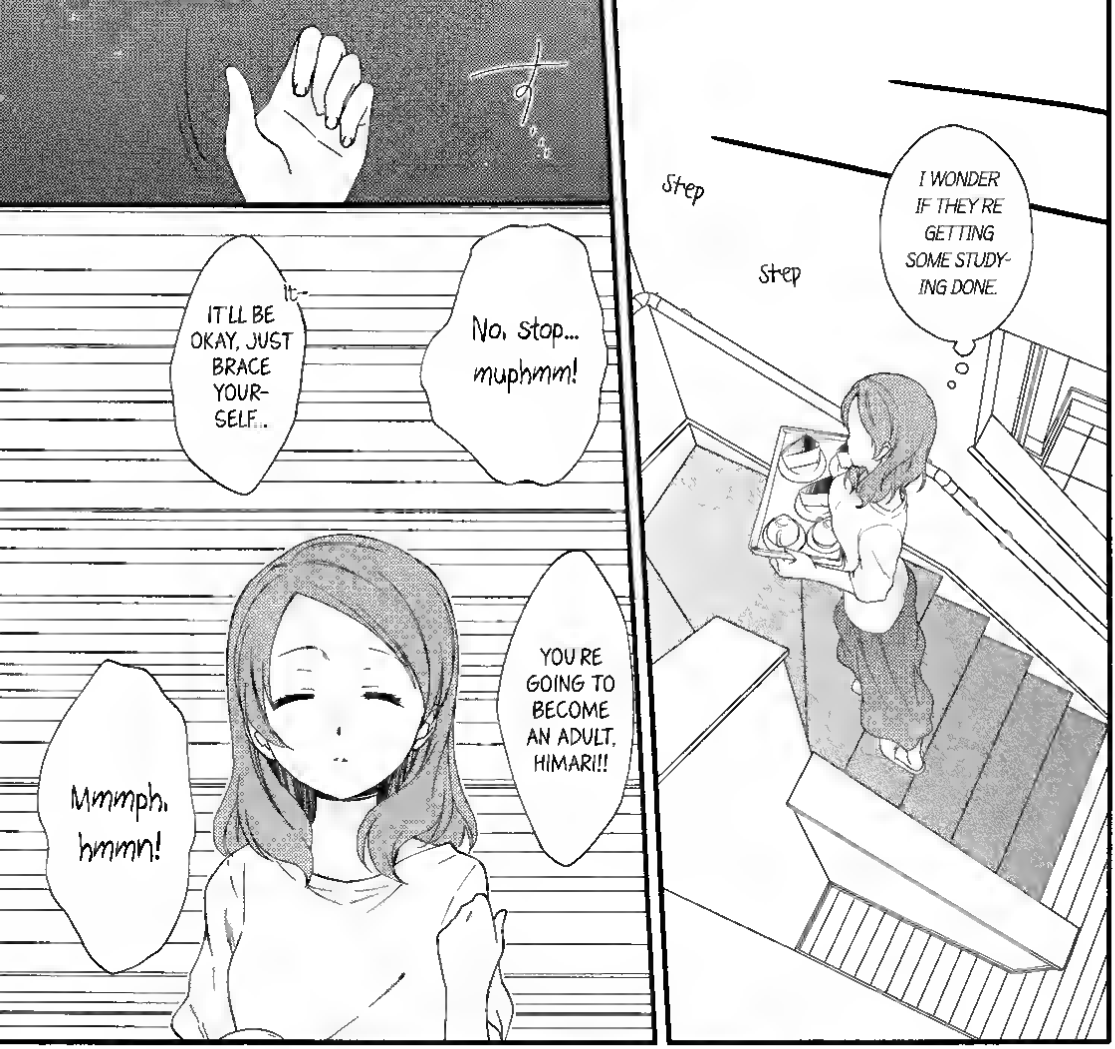
So embarrassing!!
NEVER MIND THAT!!
Ahaha aha!
Hmm
BUT I THINK THEIR SILHOUETTES LOOK KIND OF SIMILAR.
!
Wha?
WHAT IF YOU LOOK THROUGH YAE'S GLASSES?
You might not be able to tell if it's blurry!

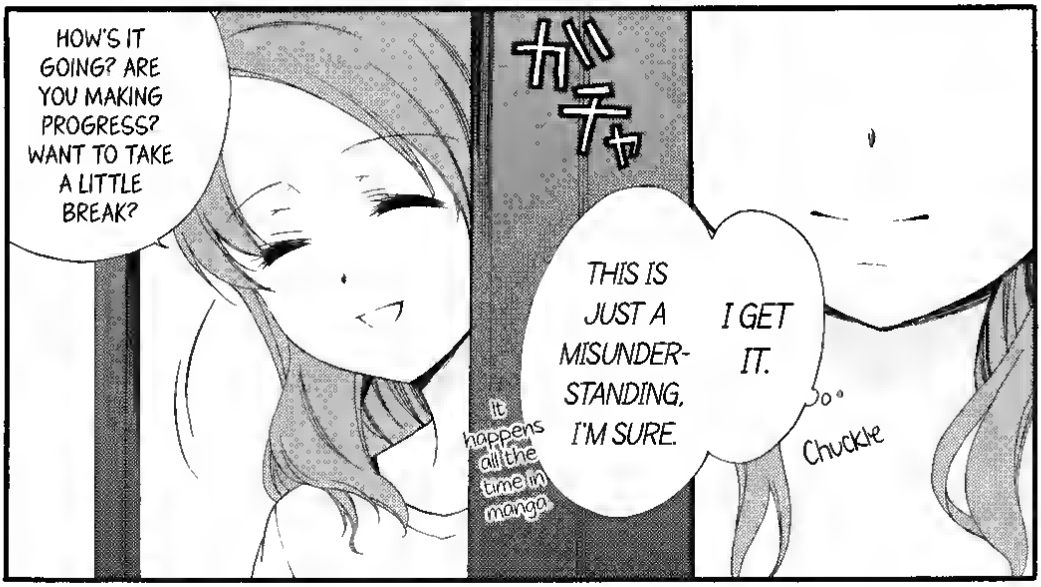
HIMARI?
BA-DUMP

...YA...
YAE-CHAN. PLEASE MAKE YOUR VOICE A BIT DEEPER.
The glasses really do work!
WHAT HAPPENED TO "STAY QUIET AND STARE?"

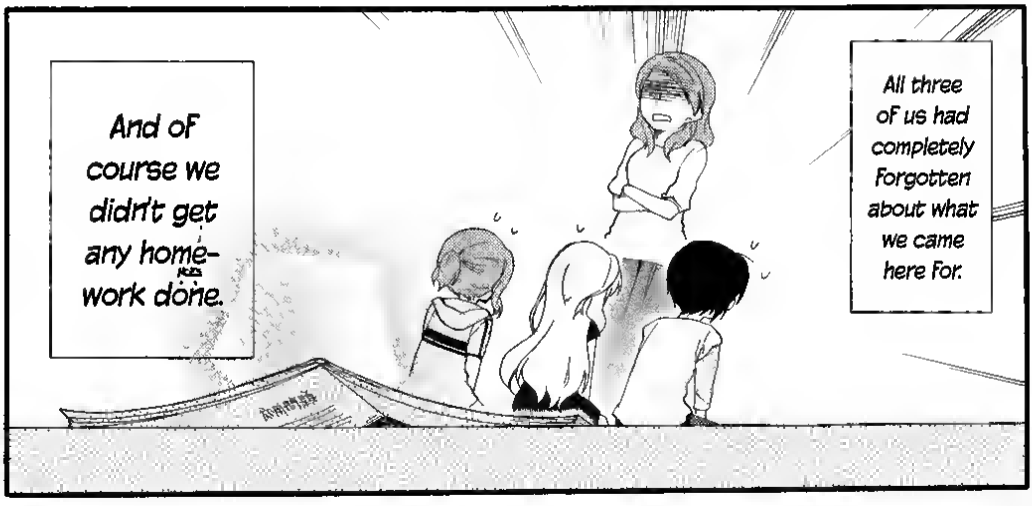
SHE CALLS THAT THING A PLUSHY
WE'LL USE THIS KEN-KUN PLUSHY FOR KISSING PRACTICE.
Th-
THEN SHUUKO-CHAN, YOU GO FIRST!
EH, ME?!
GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE...
ALRIGHT, LET'S PUT OUR KNOW-LEDGE TO THE TEST!
WHO'S THAT?!
A fake accident leading to a kiss!!
Ah, I tripped...!
PIECE OF CAKE!
IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU CAN COME UP WITH ALL OF THIS ON YOUR OWN

K-
KEN-KUN IS A BIT... WELL...
Lean
At least printed images don't freak me out anymore...
Oh my...
Youre next!
OKAY, HIMARI!
EH??
A-
AIR?!
OKAY, THEN START WITH AN AIR KISS.
L...
LIKE THIS?
Ugh...
Air kiss!
Air kiss!!
Click!
YAE-CHAN!
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR BEING SO CUTE, HIMARI!


Step
Step
I WONDER IF THEY'RE GETTING SOME STUDYING DONE.
No, stop... muphmm!
IT'LL BE OKAY, JUST BRACE YOURSELF..
YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME AN ADULT, HIMARI!!
Mmmph, hmmn!


HOW'S IT GOING? ARE YOU MAKING PROGRESS? WANT TO TAKE A LITTLE BREAK?
ガチャ
THIS IS JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING, I'M SURE.
I GET IT.
Chuckle
It happens all the time in manga.

Wha-
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!!
SHE'S GOT A WRAP ON HER MOUTH, SO IT'S FINE!
Their "research" got out of hand
Hmmmn mmnn!
← Plastic wrap
It wasn't a mis-under-standing.
Will this work...?


And of course we didn't get any home-work done.
All three of us had completely forgotten about what we came here for.